



Collective Hope

Sarah Honeychurch
Wendy Taleo

Introduction

At the end of an epic 2020, there was a need for a project that was creative, not too serious and that could work within the Connected Learning MOOC (CLMOOC) community in a positive way. We decided to produce a collaborative calendar and to ask our community for contributions. 'Hope' was the theme we chose, and little other guidance was given to participants. As an open, global project, special care was given to the imagery, music and words provided to be accessible and formatted for local printing anywhere. We now share the results - available as a pdf on our community blog (clmooc.com) and printed on our workspace walls.

Looking for hope



Contributors for the calendar:

Niall Barr, Charlene Doland, Kim Douillard, Sheri Edwards, Terry Elliott, Simon Ensor, Kevin Hodgson, Sarah Honeychurch, Melvina Kurashige, Ron Leunissen, Greg McVerry, Matt Offord, Wendy Taleo, Clare Thompson, Karen Young.

Postcards and calendars

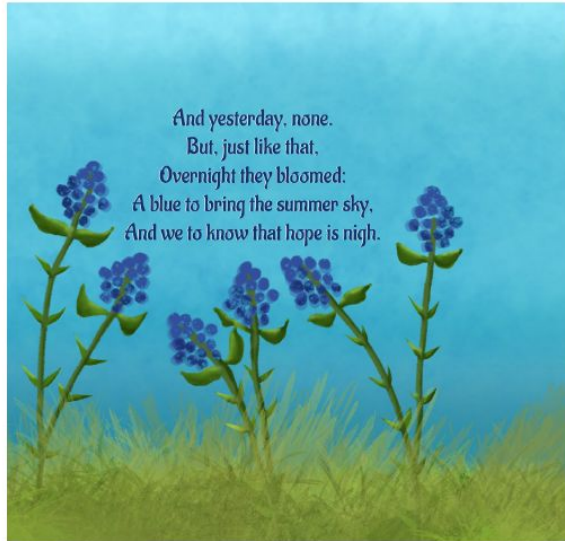


Karen had started to work on this postcard size work and photographed it for the calendar. She sent the original piece to Wendy. Wendy said it was such a joy to handle the original artwork and see the shiny silver lines of pen work and feel the texture of the crayon work.

Contributor: Karen Young

February

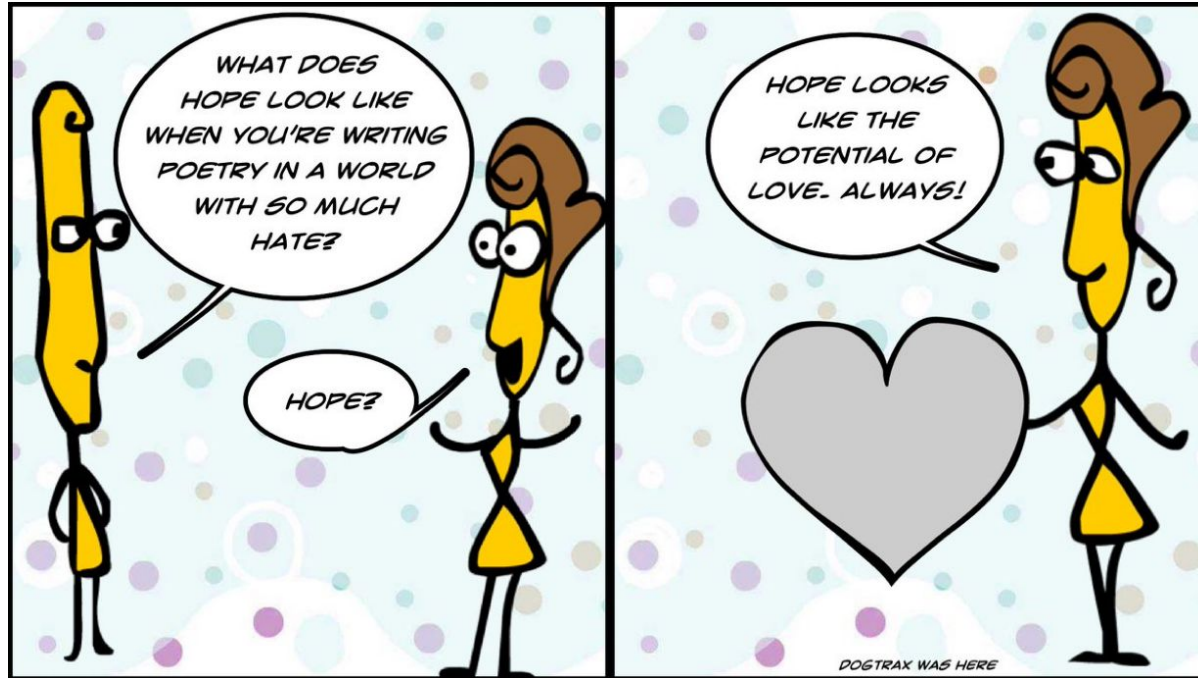
2021



Sheri's words and images are always a source of joy and hope for us. She reminds us that, like the bluebells in this image and poem, hope is always present - even though it might sometimes be hard to spot.

Contributor: Sheri Edwards

What does hope look like?



Comic by Kevin Hodgson. Part of a Twitter thread on Hope is....

Kim is a keen pair of eyes in our community, and we know her through her photography. Here she shares with us springtime poppies, representing hope for the year ahead.

Kim is the instigator of the #SilentSunday activity that the CLMOOC participates in.

Contributor: Kim Douillard

March

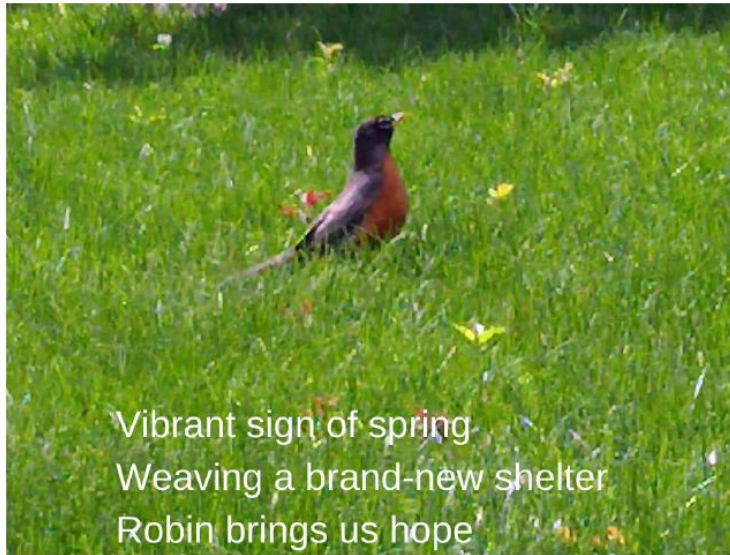
2021



Vibrant signs

April

2021



Vibrant sign of spring
Weaving a brand-new shelter
Robin brings us hope

Hope is a smile
at the drive-through coffee shop
Hope is a stranger
offering a tour of their garden
Hope is a child
grinning broadly as they pedal by
Hope is a daffodil
bravely growing up through the snow
Hope springs eternal
if only we look

Contributor: Charlene Doland

Poem is part of the 'Hope is...' series

Every day, during the first lockdown, I walked down to the park at the end of my road with Niall (my husband) to see the birds on the pond. We watched this pair of swans build a nest and sit on it, and we hoped they would be safe so close to a road and humans. One day we wandered down to find the eggs hatched and four tiny cygnets being fiercely guarded by mum and dad. These birds gave us a lifeline during those early, scary days of the pandemic.

Contributor: Sarah Honeychurch

May

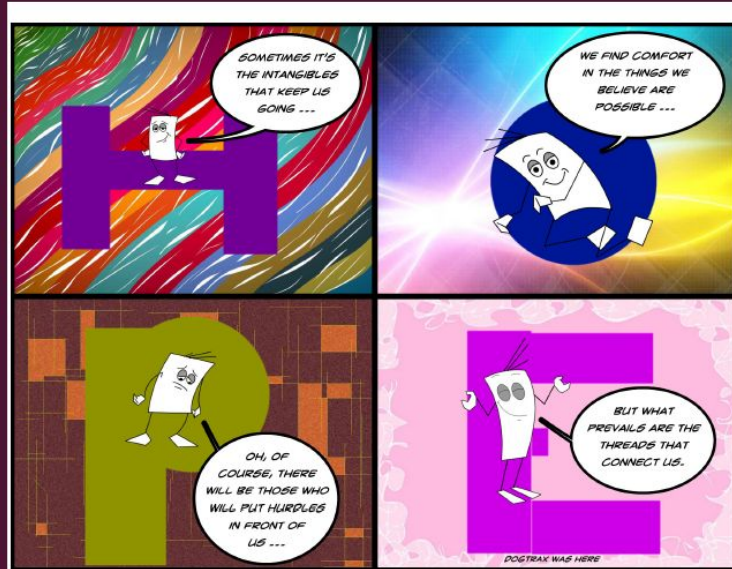
2021



Give me a H....

June

2021



We all associate comic making with Kevin, or Dogtrax, as he's often called. These simple visuals contain a powerful message about the power of connections.

Contributor: Kevin Hodgson

Morning Hope

Wendy wanted to share a view of Central Australia basking in morning colour.

The haiku hints at the hope that comes with the dawning of a new day.

Contributor Wendy Taleo

July

2021



Morning Hope

Magpies call
the day

Red rock
glows in
morning light

My dark
dreams take
flight



Hope is.....

Hope is a handshake
or the sun creating crepuscular rays

Hope is a hug
like flower buds blooming

Hope appears as

A kaleidoscope of shapes and colours.



Poem by Wendy Taleo

We may never give up

August

2021



One of the recurring theme in the images provided was that of mother/carer and child/young. Ron drew this exquisite work of his child and grandchild, witnessing the hope that we all must have for the next generation.

Contributor: Ron Leunissen

Rays of hope

Simon captured the sun's rays as a sign of hope. Gentle greens and greys depict the French countryside. Greg wrote a poem on the back page of the calendar to try and describe these rays as 'particles shimmering just below the horizon'.

Contributor: Simon Ensor

September

2021



Door of hope

October

2021



Matt took our brief along a tangent and produced this abstract digital art piece for us.

What is this window into hope saying to you?

Contributor: Matt Offord

What can hope do?

Hope can
not end
Hate.

.....

Only filled
with love's
new dawn,
an ent-draft
for our collective
soul,
Can hope quench
the undying
thirst of hate

Extract from Greg McVerry poem:

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/jgmac1106/status/1351286691596800001?s=20>

Niall also chose a mother and child. Here a bluetit feeds her baby, who is almost as big as she is.

Mother love is powerful.

Contributor: Niall Barr

November

2021



Images / Music / Poetry

December

2021



Scan
to listen



Music is provided throughout the calendar. For December Kevin's song of joy and hope is paired with Melvina's wintery peace scene.

Contributors: Melvina and Kevin

Hope is ongoing

Scan to listen



Hope comes in many shapes and colours and is both universal and personal. This project keeps on giving us joy as each month passes and a fresh view is revealed. This is a reminder of the ongoing nature of hope and the power of collaborative creativity in this community.

Calendar Design: Wendy Taleo

Long Walks off the Beat by Kevin Hodgson, 2020. Image: Clare Thompson